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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1912.

LEGISLATION FOR TO-MORROW.

Legislation upon education demands peculiar wisdom, for it is legislation for to-morrow. We to-day, from hard bought experience, guided by some far-sighted vision of the future, must provide for the next generation what training they will need under new conditions that we perhaps may live to see, but the impetus of whose spirit we shall never understand. Doubtless it is to foresee under what conditions the young adults of both sexes shall be taught those things that will enable them to realize themselves best in mutual helpfulness and broad service.

Part of this problem will be faced in the Senate to-day in the vote upon the bill to establish a co-ordinate woman's college near the University of Virginia. We believe the women of Virginia, for their past service, if for no other reason, are entitled to the same opportunities for higher education as are given her men. And it is the province of their legislators, with the most painful care and thought, to decide how these opportunities shall be offered. It is the fundamental fact of giving the teachers, the wives and mothers of to-morrow the loftiest opportunity for preparing themselves for the service of the Commonwealth.

There is no question of the right to have such an institution. The sole consideration is the advisability of a co-ordinate college at the university. Is this the best plan? Or should a separate college be established elsewhere? There should be no thought of temporary economy. Virginia women are worthy of the best.

One argument against the plan is that co-ordination will inevitably mean coeducation. The belief seems growing among educators that coeducation is not a success. And this, not for theoretical reasons, but for the very practical one that men and women differ so in abilities and aims that it is impossible to teach them together in one class and get the best results. However equal the sexes may be, they are different and have different needs.

There is no moral value involved, merely a question of efficiency. Can the proper safeguards against coeducation be provided? And if so, will this simple University of Virginia secure the ends desired?

Many of the alumni of the university object to this project on the ground that it will injure the university as a public servant. Part of this may be sentimental tradition, but deeper is the feeling that the greatest good the university has ever done the State is by sending out men with an ideal of personal integrity, love of truth, honor and faith. It has stood for manhood and character. To many men, its intangible spirit has bodied forth the reality of a religion wherein they might find faith to withstand the temptations of a doubtful world. They doubt in all sincerity the wisdom of risking a hurt to this spiritual essence, more precious than all learning. Will the presence of their sisters, in pursuit of the same truth, mean this hurt?

These questions should be answered with grave deliberation. There is no need to handicap a new institution with opposition that cannot be overcome. There is no need to sacrifice a present good for a future hope. And equally there is no reason why these obstacles should outweigh the hope. It is a question whether by this plan the State can fulfill best her own ends in the education of both sons and daughters for social service and individual happiness. But whether this college be established at the university or elsewhere, The Times-Dispatch is irretrievably devoted to the cause of higher education for women.

BRING OUT THE WEST FEE BILL.

So little time is left for the consideration anywhere of this West bill relative to the fee system that the Finance Committee should be discharged from the further consideration of that measure. Although it was the forty-ninth bill introduced in the Senate, it has never been reported upon by the committee to which it was referred. So little has been heard of it that many have thought it dead. There is nothing at all complicated about the measure; it bears all the earmarks of constitutionality; it involves no appropriation; it destroys nothing; it hurts no one; it simply requires publicity. A perfectly just and proper bill, it has long lain undisturbed in the docket of the Senate Committee on Finance.

What are the essentials of this measure? Every State and county officer would file annually with the circuit or county court, as the case may be, a sworn statement showing the aggregate salary received by him in fees and otherwise or due, but not received,

during the year. If the officers in question employ deputies, stenographers or clerks, they shall report at the same time the amount of compensation paid them. Failure to conform to the requirements of the law would be punished with a fine not exceeding \$20 or imprisonment in jail for thirty days, in the discretion of the court or jury trying the case. The Auditor of Public Accounts is to report biennially to the General Assembly the names of all State and county officers governed by the act and the amount received by each of them. The act would not include notaries public, commissioners in chancery, justices of the peace, constables, county supervisors nor any of the officers of an incorporated town in this State.

That is all—simple, direct, not drastic. Yet the Senate Finance Committee has considered this bill so long that one might think it purposed to violate the seventeen sections of the Bill of Rights and the 150 sections of the Constitution of Virginia, as well as the numerous statutes, alive, dead and forgotten. What is there about this measure that makes it so complicated that it cannot be presented to the Senate? If it is a slap in the face of Magna Charta, why cannot the Senate Committee on Finance say so?

Here is a direct, plain, business-like move for publicity in the expenditure of the people's money. It must have been referred five weeks ago or more. Is there any reason why it should not be taken up? There is but one that we can discern: the fee officers are afraid to let the people know how much they are getting, and they are unwilling that the legislators should force them to do it. The fine Italian hand of the officeholders' trust sticks up above the waters inundating the bill. There are two officers in Virginia who are getting so much money through fees, so much more than their work is worth (and most of the time it is done by deputies), that they shun publicity and strike at it in the dark. The people of Virginia have a right to know what their hired men are getting, but the State is at present in the position of a street railway company which says to the conductor on the pay-as-you-enter car: "Take for yourself all the money in the box. I don't care how much it is and I don't want to know what it is." Some county treasurers take off \$10,000 a year; some clerks revel in fat fees, and a clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals receives, it is said without denial, \$5,000—almost twice as much as the Governor or Judge Keith and a good deal more than any of our Senators and Congressmen. Is not such a condition rotten and abominable? If so, let us have the facts. The West bill will do justice to all; it calls for the facts, nothing more. Let us hope that the Senate Committee on Finance will be discharged from further duty with reference to this bill, and that, if it need be, there shall be a recorded vote on the question. Further delay of this bill is inexcusable and in laudatory contempt of the people of Virginia.

"OSTERIE" CANNIBALISM.

Here's altruism gone mad. The president of the Alabama Oyster Commission has announced that he will appeal to the humane society to prevent oysters from being eaten alive. There is something to be said for this, though it is difficult to get an oyster's point of view. They are extremely reticent. They stay in their shells until the last moment, and frequently then it is too late. They have lips, we understand, but they are not loquacious.

Yet, I do not see an oyster organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions? We cannot say he hath not. If you were an oyster, how would you like to be wrenched from your briny privacy, from perhaps your long and secret life work of perfecting a single pearl, from your immobile, but no less dear, relatives and comrades, from your very bed, and flung stark, quivering, alive, upon the tumultuous and overbearing banquet board of avid gourmands? Is this liberty, is this enlightenment, is this civilization? We wot not.

But this vivid incarceration is not without its silent, stern justice. Many an innocent, bland and smiling oyster carries with him secret vengeance. In one shuddering, horrendous word, ptomaines! Into the valley of death he carries his bacterial silletto. Can we condone such treachery on humanitarian grounds? The very pen trips over the word ptomaines. Once we would have said give him the suffrage and equality, and if there are more oysters than hungry men let the majority demand justice. Now we cry with ardor, let him meet with accountable stolidity, his succulent and nutritious fate.

WHAT ABOUT THE PURE ELECTION LAW?

Will the General Assembly be so inexcusably negligent as to let the Crockett-Chalkley pure election bill die on the calendar? Why cannot a special effort be made to take up this excellent measure, which would achieve most substantial reforms and work efficiently for the purification of the ballot box? Why do the Democrats in this House allow a few Republicans to block the effort to take up this bill? Shall a measure so potential of more honest elections and of less political corruption be permitted to die by legislative inaction?

Virginia has no effective pure election law. It should have one—and one passed at this session of the General Assembly; one which would simultaneously punish election crimes and afford immunity under restrictions, to those who have bought or sold votes, in order that they can make the law more effective by revealing violations of it. The Crockett-Chalkley bill, drafted by that astute and able jurist, Judge A. A. Phelan, covers most adequately and ingeniously the situation by offering

immunity to both vote-sellers and vote-buyers and affording safety from the punishment to the informing voter within six months, and then affording a like privilege to the informing vote-seller after the expiration of that time. It is definite and complete, and it ought to be made law.

Judge Skeen, who has brought to book so many alleged takers and givers of bribes in election cases, has delayed the hearing of these cases until the May term of his court. One hundred and forty-seven indictments for bribery in elections have already been brought in at that court in this term, and more are to follow. Judge Skeen awaits the action of the General Assembly upon the Crockett-Chalkley bill. His interest in this measure is most evident, and while this bill, if enacted, would not have retrogressive effect, it would enable both vote-sellers and buyers to give incriminating evidence in the cases where bribery has already been found, although the guilty party would receive the penalty provided by the present statute, instead of any possible new penalty in the pending bill.

Virginia has three great and imperative needs in the way of legislation: a tax equalization law, an effective primary law and a pure election law. This fact should be kept in mind, and the pure election bill should not be lost through inattention and inaction. The Times-Dispatch knows of one excellent and able man who would like to offer for high office in Southwest Virginia, but who will not run unless the pure election law is passed. He feels that he cannot enter into wholesale vote-buying and selling and that he cannot hope to win in the face of such corruption methods used against him. Election conditions in certain sections of this State are rotten to the core, and the repeated revelations of corruption have accumulated such evidence as presents an appalling indictment of our present election laws. The Crockett-Chalkley bill covers the situation and should be passed. There is every reason for action and no honest one for delay.

THE MOVING PICTURE IN EDUCATION.

One of the latest subjects of discussion in educational circles is the moving picture show as an educational object lesson auxiliary. Already the film has been introduced into a number of the public schools at the North, but there are two parties to the question of the advisability, desirability and value of the experiment.

Dr. Fletcher B. Dresslar, of the National Bureau of Education, is in opposition. His contention is that the moving picture "tends to the stimulation of 'eye mindfulness' at the expense of appreciation and study of the real living art and cultivation of sympathy with true pulsating poetry and music. In a word, he maintains, as we understand, that in a sense and at the last, this moving picture practically is "all dumb show," appealing merely and superficially to the vision and not reaching the inner understanding.

On the other hand, the advocates of the auxiliary, in addition to denying Dr. Dresslar's "postulates," point to the fact that Edison has anticipated and negated, so far as the future is concerned at least, the faults the doctor finds with the innovation. The electrical wizard, they set forth, has declared that he has perfected a device by means of which there will be "complete action"—that is to say, the voices of the actors and incidental sounds will be reproduced simultaneously with the unfolding of the films, thus constituting concurrent appeals to the eye and the ear.

That this involves a tremendous advance in the field of "moving picture art" and strengthens in many aspects the position of Mr. Dresslar's opponents, must be admitted. But there still remains the question whether mechanism and mechanical imitation can ever supply the place, evolve the magnetism and humanism, or achieve the transcendence of the subtle vitalized force and influence of actual personality. In default of the accomplishment of this, which is still the case with even the most exquisitely toned and delicately adjusted phonograph or graphophone, there must be lacking a certain indefinable power of impression upon eye, brain and heart, absolutely essential in awakening unified and complete responsiveness and expanding to the fullest intelligent comprehension. The problem therefore turns upon whether mechanical mimics can substitute or embody "soul" or genius as these find expression in the exercise of the faculties and obedience to the inspirations of the Creator's noblest work, man, who was created in His own image.

Some so-called progressives seem to have "feelings" for expediency as delicate as the antennae of the timid crawfish. And when the principles they have advocated are about to leave them in the limelight of loneliness, they "progress" backward with the awkward scuttle of that lowly crustacean. It must be a comfort to a farmer to feel that every time he drives to town in a broad-tired wagon he is doing his share of good road-making.

VERSE FOR TO-DAY

Evergreen.
 Is it true, as some say,
 Love may perish in a day,
 As June roses in July,
 Wither in their bloom and die?
 Love is like the eypress vine,
 Like the cedar and the pine,
 Which, through heartless heat and cold,
 All their fragrant freshness hold.
 MILDENRY LEWIS.

WASHINGTON

By Roy K. Moulton

A Trip to Mt. Vernon.

Washington, February 20.
 Dear Editor,—I have been down to Mount Vernon and have seen George Washington's bed. It is not a comfortable looking bed, to say the least, and after looking at it over I do not wonder that George couldn't lie. I saw a large number of other interesting relics while at Mount Vernon, including a bevy of spinster school teachers from New Hampshire, who were there taking in the sights. I saw George Washington's cane, George Washington's uniform and George Washington's stockings, but when a colored gentleman showed me George Washington's telephone and tried to sell it to me for \$25, I balked. There is a limit even to the sanctity of a greenhorn from the North. George Washington never had a telephone, and I know of, for if he had he would simply have been obliged to lie once in a while, when Maria got to calling him up at his office.

There may be better people, chiefly among the politicians, who have never heard of George Washington and his most famous characteristic, but let me tell you, he is some head around in this locality. Besides playing the star part in all modern orations he was the father of our rubberneck party. Some people have disputed this and have tried to prove that the father of his country was Brigham Young, but I stick to George. I have been obliged to, for the other half of my sketch in a member of the D. A. R.

George must have been very busy in his day and generation. About every thing that was done around here was done by him, and that is probably where the phrase originated: "Get George to do it." At least this was the speculation of a drummer for a patent mousetrap concern who was a member of our rubberneck party. When we approached the residence I accented an aged colored man and asked:

"Where place is this?"
 "Mars George Washington's, sah."
 "Is he here?"
 "No, sah, Ahn ye-all evah heard dat he was dead?"
 Here the mouse trap drummer tried to ring in the ancient vaudeville gag. Yes, he guessed it, all right. He was going to say that he hadn't heard that George Washington had been dead, but he didn't have a chance, for the drummer continued:

"Vas, sah, he done been dead a long time ago. I was right in de room at de time."
 "Where you one of de vast army of personal body servants who used to care for General Washington?" we asked suspiciously.
 "Vas, sah, I was de only one he evah had. All de rest am imitations an' am stealin' mah thunder. Ah shall suitly nevah forget Mars George's las' words to me, sah, said to me, 'Ephraim, jes' ye remembah, dis yere, Don't ye evah tell no lie, an' honer' to goodness, I jes' nevah tell no lie from dat day to dis.'"
 "About how old are you, Uncle Eph?"
 "Ah will be jes' ninety-seven y's old, de comin' yit."
 "And you were in the room when the general passed away?"
 "But Washington died in 1799, about fifteen years before you were born."
 "Kaint help dat, boss. If dat am de case, Ah suitly must have been bo'n agin' Mars George, de comin' yit, me nevah tell no lie, an' I aint nevah done told one yit, nehovh."
 Silver collected amounted to \$2.55.

Mount Vernon looks just like all of the pictures of it. It takes a remarkable good photograph, and has posed about as frequently for the camera. It is of interest, with the possible exception of Niagara Falls. Why so many United States Senators die or retire poor has been revealed at last. I took lunch in the Senate dining hall, and enough said. I had to borrow \$5 from one of the Congressmen to do it. It seemed to me that most of the young people in this country must be getting married at the present time, and are all coming to Washington to get their honeymoon. The Google-Google bunch of Senators and Congressmen, and all coming to Washington to get their honeymoon. The Google-Google bunch of Senators and Congressmen, and all coming to Washington to get their honeymoon. The Google-Google bunch of Senators and Congressmen, and all coming to Washington to get their honeymoon.

The weak defense of the "honorable member" from the "State" as published in your paper under date of February 11, would be laughable were it not for the seriousness of the thought that it might be used to average representative of that august body. He will pardon me, I know, for suggesting that in order to escape the wrath to come, from his informed constituency, that he offer the following resolution:

"That to preserve the peace and dignity of this Commonwealth, and of this honorable body, we do now adjourn."

Do not delay, or our worst fears may be fully realized.

To the innocent and uninformed the Legislature by handing out a barrel of flour, robbing the cities of their revenue, juggling with the election laws, bowing to the office trust, arming the

No matter how long a woman keeps her head down, she knows how many peepers it takes. The fact is, she hates to break in a clean towel.

DOES THE END JUSTIFY THE MEANNESS?

By John T. McCutcheon.

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THE COAL OPERATOR—"Honesty, I hate to see all this suffering upon all sides—"



"But, Great Scott, just see how much money I'm making! I'll soon have enough to endow a college."

Antislavery League around, afraid of a chestnut blight, and flitting with the women, thinks they have made their mark in the election. The feeling of the situation would be enjoyable from the gallery or even at a distance, were it not for the thought that matters of grave importance are being sacrificed, the will of the people overridden and our constitutional rights invaded. The weak attempt to enact salutary laws for the betterment of the conditions of the people at large, in contrast with the energy expended with which and speed to legislate the officeholders back into office, is obnoxious to the intelligent citizen, and will be met with a protest that will be marked by no less a gesture for many who have sacrificed their delegated rights for a mess of pottage.

The time bill is purely class legislation and is a "sop" thrown to the farmer by those who expect to secure a life tenure in office. It sounds very much like "forty acres and a mule." How can any sane and sensible farmer swallow this dope? I would like to hear from some good business farmer before he accepts alms from his State. Why not add to this bill another \$10,000 for a trip to Europe to secure a better quality of stock for the State? Now if it is proper and just to enact laws of this character, why not put up a shoe factory for the barefooted, maimed, and crippled for the naked, and a flouring mill for the hungry? Ah! "When the poor cried for bread you gave them a stone," and reduced the amount of \$100 under the garnishment act to \$25, and alleged that you did it for his own good. How consistent and wise thou art!

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at Richmond, and I venture to say that hundreds of school children never have seen one. Let the Legislature of Virginia be the champion of the flag of Virginia, and see to it that our children have at least a chance to see it. Let us not be so miserly as to spend money on flags, but let us first see that no old soldiers have to lay down their heads and die in poorhouses before we appropriate money to cherish the flag. It is not my purpose, although Napoleon said, "sentiment rules the world."

A VIRGINIAN AND CONFEDERATE SON.

Lynchburg.

Declares Game Laws Adequate.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir,—Nothing that letters and editorials continue to appear in your issues upon the subject of game and game laws. I presume you will, and as also many of your readers, be interested in conditions as they actually exist in the counties in regard to these subjects. It is not my purpose to discuss the matter, but simply to say that the present game laws are working satisfactorily here. They are very well observed. There is very little trespassing and no "pot hunting" practically. Land-owners are keeping a pretty close watch, and the county game warden is doing efficient work when the occasion arises, which is not often.

There were more "birds" (quail) last season than for many years, owing to several successive mild winters, and the very favorable breeding season last summer. Rabbits were abundant, plentiful than ever before in the last forty years, and are increasing rapidly. Squabblers were more plentiful than usual. Habbits were abundant, they were very scarce. Foxes very scarce. Hawks very numerous, but it is not often that signs are met of their having taken quail. But few robins have been shot in recent years. They came earlier this season and in larger numbers than for a long time. Very fat, and some were shot, but not very many.

Even the boys do not seem to look upon them as game birds now, as everybody did years ago. Nearly every local sportsman whom I know is also a workman, and all of them are poor shots, including your humble servant. A bag of a dozen "birds" is very unusual amongst us. Usual birds are met of their having taken quail. But few robins have been shot in recent years. They came earlier this season and in larger numbers than for a long time. Very fat, and some were shot, but not very many.

I know of no case hereabouts where land-owners cannot be relied upon to give game all necessary protection, in conjunction with the present warden, to the game laws.

WYTHEVILLE. UNSLACKED.

and I do not think a "State game commission, and as many wardens as he thought necessary to appoint" would do \$25 worth of good in the county each year. I have seen lots of birds since the hard weather, which seemed to be good and strong. C. L. HARRISON, Tunstall.

The Game Law.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir.—The Rutherford game bill has been recommended by the committee with an amendment which will destroy the protection it will afford its original form. This amendment is to allow the county supervisors to determine whether a hunting license shall be paid in their respective counties. Is it not absurd to expect any county to make its people pay a license which the people of some other county do not pay? No county has a right to reap such a benefit at the expense of its neighbors, even if the latter enforce the license. This bill is for the good of the State, as a whole. It is not a county or an individual matter. The license must be general to support a State Game Commission.

We hope you will protest strenuously against the amendment. Now is the time to assist us in securing a law which has been adopted by thirteen States in the past four years. Every State in the Union has a game commission but six, and all require a hunting license, but fourteen. Is it possible for us to make a mistake by following the almost universal lead? THE VIRGINIA AUDUBON SOCIETY, Member Legislative Committee.

QUERIES & ANSWERS

Penitentiary Whitewash. Will you kindly give the formula for making whitewash like that in use at the Virginia Penitentiary?

They place one barrel of lime in a strong barrel and slake with just sufficient water, adding one peck of salt as the lime is slaked. This paste is covered and allowed to stand three or four days. Then it is thinned with water to about the "thickness" of milk. The experts at the penitentiary say that whitewash will wear and look better if put on very thin, and that part, at least, of the attractive appearance of their whitewash comes from frequency of application.

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Richmond, Virginia

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